Expository Essay Rubric

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|  | Description | Intro | Body | Conclusion | Language | Other |
| 4 | Clearly addresses all parts of the writing task  Maintains a clear purpose and a consistent point of view and focus  All ideas are on topic, not extraneous  Essay logically flows from one paragraph to another Paragraphs fully elaborate and develop the thesis | Engaging, appropriate lead  General information  introducing the topic  Clear thesis and a statement of the main points | Well-developed topic sentence  In-depth, accurate, and relevant facts/concrete details  Relevant comments without redundancy  Effective concluding sentence that restates the topic sentence | Restates the thesis statement and the main ideas  Expands upon the general information provided in the introduction  Ends with a final thought, but does not give any new information | Effective transitions  throughout the essay  Employs a variety of  sentence patterns to  enhance the writing  Sentences vary in beginnings, length, and complexity  Precise and engaging vocabulary | Writes with the  audience in mind  Strong “voice” (expressive, engaging,  enthusiastic, natural,  thought-provoking)  Original and engaging  title |
| 3 | Addresses all parts of the writing task  Maintains a general understanding of the purpose and mostly consistent point of view and focus  Ideas are on topic; essay flows from one paragraph to another  Paragraphs build and develop the thesis | Appropriate lead  Some general information introducing the topic  Thesis and a statement of the main points | Topic sentence  Relevant facts, concrete details, and supporting comments  Minimal redundancy  Concluding sentence | Restates the thesis  statement and the main  ideas  May include some  general information  Ends with a final thought | Includes appropriate  transitions  May employ various  sentence patterns  Sentences may vary in beginnings and length  Uses accurate vocabulary | Attempts to write with  the audience in mind  Moderate “voice”  (sincere, but not genuinely engaging)  Appropriate title |
| 2 | Addresses only parts of the writing task  Demonstrates limited understanding of the purpose and an unclear point of view and focus  Lacks unity between paragraphs  Weak paragraph development  Lacks sufficient support for the thesis | Weak, inappropriate, or  missing lead  Little or no general  information introducing the topic  Weak, insufficient, or  missing thesis and  statement of the main  points | Insufficient or  missing topic sentence limited or irrelevant  facts, concrete details,  and comments  Redundant information  or comments  Insufficient or  missing concluding  sentence | Confusing or missing  restatement of thesis, main ideas, and  general information  Missing final thought | Ineffective, awkward, or missing transitions  Simple sentence patterns  May include confusing or incorrect vocabulary | Limited awareness of  the audience  Little or no “voice”  (flat, lifeless, or mechanical)  May or may not have a  title |
| 1 | Fails to address the writing task  Demonstrates no understanding of the purpose  Lacks point of view, focus, and unity between paragraphs;  Little or no paragraph development | Inappropriate or  missing lead  No general information  introducing the topic  Missing or irrelevant  thesis and main points | Missing or irrelevant  topic sentence  Few or no facts,  concrete details, or  support  Redundant information  Missing or irrelevant  concluding sentence | Missing or inappropriate | To transitions  Simple, confusing, or fragmented sentence patterns | No awareness of the audience  Lacks “voice” (flat,  lifeless, or mechanical)  No title |